

REMARKS

With this response, Claim 10 has been amended, Claims 17-27 have been canceled without prejudice as being drawn to non-elected inventions and Claims 28-57 have been added. Thus, after entry of this Response, Claims 1-16 and 28-57 are pending in the instant Application.

Applicants expressly reserve the right to file one or more continuation, continuation-in-part or divisional applications directed towards non-elected subject matter during the pendency of the captioned Application.

AMENDED CLAIMS AND NEW CLAIMS

Claim 10 has been amended to recite at least one additional zwitterionic component. Support for the amendment of Claim 10 is found in Figures 7A, 7B, 8A, 8B, 9A, 9B, 10A and 10B.

Support for new Claims 28-57 is found in Figures 7A, 7B, 8A, 8B, 9A, 9B, 10A and 10B.

No new matter is added by the amendment of Claim 10 and the addition of Claims 28-57. Accordingly, entry into the instant Application is proper and respectfully requested.

RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT

The Patent Office required election under 35 U.S.C. § 121 of one of the following groups of inventions:

Group I: Claims 1-16 drawn to an optical labeling molecule;

Group II: Claims 17-18 drawn to a method of labeling a target protein; and

Group III: Claims 19-27 drawn to a method of performing protein analysis on a plurality of proteins.

Applicants hereby elect the Claims of Group I without traverse.

ELECTION OF SPECIES

The Patent Office required election of species under 35 U.S.C. § 121. Applicants elect the species E in Figure 8A. Claims 1, 2, 6-10, 12, 13, 16, 28, 48 and 51 read on the elected species.

CONCLUSION

Applicants respectfully submit that all pending Claims of the captioned Application satisfy all requirements for patentability and are in condition for allowance. An early indication of the same is therefore respectfully requested.

No other fees beyond the extension fee are believed due in connection with this Response. However, the Commissioner is authorized to charge any required fee not included with this Response or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 50-1283

If the Examiner determines that prosecution of the instant application would benefit from a telephone interview, the Examiner is invited to call the undersigned attorney at (415)-693-2060.

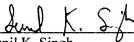
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Respectfully submitted,

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